

# TONOPAH DAILY BONANZA

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## "PRE-WAR PRICES"

Undoubtedly a considerable part of the public is disposed to regard a return to "Pre-War Prices" as a desirable goal, and is attracted by statements that it has been done by some manufacturer or merchant. Yet a little consideration shows that it cannot really be done in any absolute sense, recorded in more number of dollars, but only relatively.

For not only prices of commodities have risen, under pressure of war demands and war diversions of labor and capital and enterprise from production for strictly necessary or reproductive consumption to production for destructive consumption, including those articles which are truly "luxuries" because their continuous use is beyond the steady earning ability of the buyers.

Wages have been largely adjusted to these higher prices even in those public services where they lag most, and so have prices of materials, and all sorts of overhead or "service" or "management" costs. And it is really important that buyers should understand this, lest their recent very visible halt in buying becomes an obstinate "strike," thwarting its own purpose by forcing such shut-down of production as will return us to war scarcities.

With accurate perception of the realities of the situation and their dangers does "Nugent's" that lively and enterprising organ of the karment trade, urge a campaign of education through advertising in these terms:

"The time is really opportune for a broad publicity campaign on the part of the merchants of the coun-

try to convince the consumer that a newer set of prices cannot be achieved at will, and that prices must remain higher than previously because of the changed conditions resulting in higher wages, higher materials and higher overhead. Facts of such nature will make a direct appeal to the public, because they are self-evident truths that the public verify daily through their own experience as workers and producers.

Assertions that given prices are "pre-war" may be easily tested by most men of 30 to 60 out of their own experience. The great majority of such men are engaged in the same or similar occupations that they were in 1913-14. Assuming that six years' experience would have brought some increase in material rewards, let them consider whether they can now buy any necessary article, such as a coat, or shoes, or a barrel of flour, with the same number of hours of work that they could in 1913-14.

If they can, the price asked for that article is "pre-war." If they cannot, the price is not. Usually, of course, this tested, the price is not. And it would be highly unreasonable to expect it to be. If it were, we would be having real "hard times" right now. But with due effort on the part of sellers to inform buyers truly about prices, and why they cannot yet be actually "pre-war," together with the exercise of fair-minded common-sense all around we shall escape any "hard times" disaster in our return from the high-pressure speeds of war to the equable paces of peace.

## HOPEFUL OUTLOOK IN MEXICO

Although he is a man of achievement in military activities, the new president of Mexico is primarily a business man, a substantial man of affairs in private life. He is not a grafting politician in political adventure such as many of the men who have been prominent in Mexican affairs since the retirement of Diaz. There is every reason to believe that he will be able to enlist the support of the better element of Mexican citizenship, command the respect of other nations, and establish orderly government in our sister republic. In that event, which is deeply to be wished, the people of the United States may resume their commercial relations with the people of Mexico on a basis of mutual confidence and with benefit to the interests of both nations.

Mexico is in great need of the assistance of not only American capital, but of American skill in large industrial undertakings. Many of Mexico's resources are such as to require development on a large scale in order to assure the highest

success. The mines, the oil deposits, and even the large areas of unused agricultural and grazing lands, can best be developed by men who have had extensive experience in forming organizations for production, transportation and trade. America has an abundance of capital, plenty of men who have been trained in the practical management of large enterprises, and a spirit of friendly co-operation. The new president of Mexico seems to be a man who will seek to encourage legitimate investments by foreign capital in the development of the resources of his country. The next president of the United States will be a man who will do everything proper to cultivate friendly relations without sacrificing that national self-respect which necessitates recognition of the rights of our citizens.

The administration of Harding in the United States and of Obregon in Mexico should be remembered as marking the restoration of a feeling of mutual respect and confidence between the two great republics of North America.

## RESULTS OF BUYING ABROAD

About 4000 employees of a cotton manufacturing plant recently volunteered to accept a reduction of 15 per cent in wages if they could be kept at work. The company had announced that it must curtail production because of lack of orders. But coincident with this there was

the publication of government statistics showing heavy increases of importations of cotton goods from England. If the American mill worker were assured of the business that goes to Europe, there might be less talk of curtailment of American production.

## KEEP COLLEGES OUT OF POLITICS

According to reports, Williams college is to organize an institute of politics to promote a better understanding of international problems and relations. Lord Robert Cecil, prominent in the work of the league of nations committee at the

peace conference, is to be invited to address the institute. Politics is a dangerous subject to teach in the schools. It is far better to have a student well grounded in economics both foreign and domestic, and let him form his own political conclusions.

## REPUBLICANS PLAN ECONOMY

Congressman William R. Wood of Indiana, chairman of the subcommittee in charge of the legislative appropriation bill, which provides the salaries of most of the government employees in Washington, is

reported as saying that \$36,000,000 will be cut from the administration estimate of \$136,000,000. Part of the economy would be the reduction of the force of clerks from approximately 92,000 to 72,000.

## GOMPERS FOSTERED FOSTER

W. E. Foster, the radical coedified by Mr. Gompers and put in charge of the steel strike of last year, is reported to be organizing the clothing workers into a rival union to the American Federation of Labor. Gompers has only himself to thank

for the prominence that Foster now enjoys. If it had not been for the encouragement given the syndicalist by the labor chief, he would never have been able to exploit himself and stimulate the radical element in this country.

## FARMERS FACE GRAVE SITUATION AS PRICES FALL

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 13.—American farmers face a situation due to falling prices for farm products which should be dealt with as a national problem, Secretary Meredith declared in his first annual report made public today. On November 1 prices were 33 per cent below those prevailing at planting time, the secretary of agriculture said, adding:

There is perhaps no single solution for the situation which the farmers are now facing, but there are many steps which can and should be taken to place our agriculture on a more satisfactory basis and to stabilize the business of farming not in the interest of the farmers alone, but in the interest of the nation as a whole. A sober national thought with regard to the importance, the absolute necessity, of a sustained agriculture in this country is imperative.

## HAT CHECKING IN JAIL PROVES RANK FAILURE

NEWARK, N. J., Dec. 13. The restaurant policy of "Watch your hat and overcoat" does not apply to the county penitentiary at Caldwell. The prison must either preserve inmates' personal property or pay. This was decided when the county board of freeholders directed Warden Hosp to reimburse two convicts whose terms had expired and who threatened to sue the county if their overcoats, checked when they entered, were not either produced or paid for.

## XMAS DANCE

Two Big Xmas dances at the Air-dome December 24 and 25. D11-113

JEAN MILLERAND



Jean Millerand, the son of the new President of France.

## MURDERER OF S. F. MAN GETS 10 YRS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13. Edward Cunneen was sentenced to 10 years in Sing Sing recently on conviction of the murder of Charles W. Cleson of San Francisco, engineer of an army transport.

The killing occurred in a hotel here last June. Cunneen was on trial before Judge Malone last week, when the latter, after charging the jury in the case, told dead. The trial was concluded by Judge Walsh.

## BARBERS CUT PRICES

PETALUMA, Dec. 13. At the last meeting of the barbers' union the members voted to decrease the price of haircuts from 75 cents to 50 cents. The new schedule went into effect Monday in all the union barbers' shops.

## Why?

Many persons wonder why they have to pay 40 or 50 cents, or more, for the beef they buy when live cattle are only 10 or 15 cents a pound.

In the first place, we average only about 1/2 pound of meat from the pound of steer for which we pay 10 or 15 cents. Only part of the other half consists of such by-products as hides, oleo oil, tallow, etc. — the remainder is waste. And the return from by-products just now is very small. Hides and fats as well as many other items are down to pre-war prices.

In the second place, there are not many pounds of the kind of meat for which you pay 40 or 50 cents, or more, in the entire animal. Sometimes the retailer has to sell a lot of the meat he buys for about what he pays for it, because you and your neighbors pass by certain cuts and insist upon the other choicer cuts, such as steaks, etc.

Necessarily, he must get enough for these choicer cuts to make up for what he loses on the less popular ones, such as soup meat, etc.

The difference between the final retail price of the finished meat product and the first cost of the live steer is less than it is for most farm products.

If the foregoing raises any question in the mind of the reader, endeavor to answer it, upon request.

Swift & Company, U. S. A.



## Bonanza Business Directory

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and  
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LAWYERS

505 State Bank and Trust Bldg.  
TONOPAH NEVADA

A. H. ELFTMAN

Consulting Geologist and  
Mining Engineer

406-407 tState Bank Building  
TONOPAH, NEVADA  
Phones: Office, 3122; Res. 284.

J. G. THOMPSON

I. G. THOMPSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

202-3 State Bank Building  
TONOPAH NEVADA

W. R. GIBSON

LAWYER

Room 414 State Bank Building  
Phones—Office 622; Residence 623

HUGH HENRY BROWN

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Office: 312-316 State Bank and  
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